

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

PROPERTY TAXES DEPARTMENT 450 N STREET, MIC: 62, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA (PO BOX 942879, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 94279-0062) TELEPHONE (916) 324-5827 FAX (916) 323-5689 www.boe.ca.gov JOHAN KLEHS First District, Hayward

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No. 2000/077

November 30, 2000

TO COUNTY ASSESSORS:

KERN COUNTY ASSESSMENT PRACTICES SURVEY

A copy of the Kern County Assessment Practices Survey Report is enclosed for your information. The Board of Equalization (BOE) completed this survey in fulfillment of the provisions of sections 15640-15646 of the Government Code. These code sections provide that the BOE shall make surveys in each county and city and county to determine that the practices and procedures used by the county assessor in the valuation of properties are in conformity with all provisions of law.

The Kern County Assessor was provided a draft of this report and given an opportunity to file a written response to the findings and recommendations contained in the report. This report, the county assessor's response, and the BOE's comments to the assessor's response constitute the final survey report. This report, pursuant to Government Code section 15646, is distributed to the Governor, the Attorney General, the State Legislature, the Kern County Board of Supervisors, the Kern County Grand Jury, and the Kern County Assessment Appeals Boards.

The BOE's County Property Tax Division performed the fieldwork for this survey of the Kern County Assessor's Office during July 1999 and August 1999. This report does not reflect changes implemented by the assessor after the fieldwork was completed.

The survey process inherently requires the interruption of normal office work routines. We thank the Honorable James W. Maples, Kern County Assessor/Recorder/Clerk, and his staff for their cooperation and patience during this assessment practices survey. These survey reports give the government officers in California charged with property tax administration the opportunity to exchange ideas for the mutual benefit of all participants and stakeholders. We encourage you to share your questions, comments, and/or suggestions for improvement with us.

Sincerely, /s/ Richard C. Johnson

Richard C. Johnson Deputy Director Property Taxes Department

RCJ:jm Enclosure